

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 52 No. 37

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Remembering new day of infamy

Redstone observes
9/11 anniversary

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Sept. 11, 2001, the new day of infamy, should never be forgotten.

That was part of the message during Team Redstone's second annual program Thursday in observance of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on this nation. An estimated 550 people attended the "Americans, United We Stand, A Tribute to Freedom" ceremony at Bob Jones Auditorium.

"Two years ago, our homeland was attacked. It was a horrific event," Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, said. "We stood as one on that day and we vowed never to forget."

By the time of the ceremony, 290 Americans of all services had been killed and nearly 1,500 wounded since

the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The war on terrorism continues. "Only by standing together as one will we prevail," Dodgen said.

Representatives from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard read passages on the significance of the Declaration of Independence, the American flag, the U.S. Constitution and the Gettysburg Address. Candles in observance of the terrorist attacks were lit by representatives from local firefighters, police and emergency medical services.

Other parts of the program included a 21-gun salute in front of the auditorium followed by taps by a bugler, the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" sung by Gena Jones, the folding of the flag by an honor guard along with an explanation of the meaning of each fold.

"This has been an extraordinary program," Jim Flinn, deputy to the

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

BELL TOLLS— SFC Kevin Merrill of the NCO Academy rings the ceremonial bell during the 9/11 program.

Senior logistician dies from heart attack

Eric B. Thomas
visited 9/11 site
in New York

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

MEMORIES— In May 2002, Eric B. Thomas looks at some of the pictures he collected from the New York City terrorist attack. He kept them in a small photo album titled, "Remember the Heroes, Sept. 11, 2001."

lyst with Dynetics Inc.

"Eric was a senior logistician," Marcia Byrnes, chief of the soldiers and systems division at LOGSA, said. "He was very willing to impart his knowledge with everyone and was very willing to help wherever he was needed to make the Army a better place."

"Eric's connection with the national level with AMCOM was critical to the success of the tool that he was working on for LOGSA," she said, referring to the inventory tracker.

Thomas traveled to Fort Monmouth, N.J., in February 2002 to deliver a presentation for the Army's single stock fund modernization efforts. During that trip, he visited Ground Zero for three hours Feb. 21.

Thomas, a Birmingham native with a son in the military, recalled his thoughts from the visit in an article which appeared in the May 22, 2002 *Redstone Rocket*.

"It made me feel closer to other Americans of all walks of life," he said. "I felt I fit right into that melting pot that America is. Even though it happened in New York, it impacted all Americans."

See Thomas on page 13

Army proud on 9/11 anniversary

Two years have passed since the terrorist agents of hatred and fear committed their attack on America on Sept. 11, 2001. On this second anniversary of that day, we pause to remember and honor the innocent men, women and children who perished in those senseless acts of terrorism in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Our observances on Sept. 11 also serve as a reminder of the heroes — soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines — who have lost their lives in operations in the war against terrorism. We will not forget, and will long honor, their devotion to this country and the principles we hold dear.

Soldiers are fighting today on behalf of our nation — they are a critical component of the joint team, prosecuting the war on terrorism. In 120 countries around the globe, our soldiers are serving bravely on the frontiers of freedom, and they and their families set the standard every day for selfless service. For more than 228 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will.

We can all be justifiably proud of the Army's achievements in fighting terror and bringing liberty to the oppressed. The Taliban and al Qaeda are no longer terrorizing the citizens of Afghanistan. The brutal regime of Saddam Hussein

has been forcibly removed. Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are vital parts of this nation's unyielding campaign to destroy international terrorism and to restore global stability.

We pause today to honor those lost two years ago, those lost in the long days since Sept. 11, and all of their families. The war on terrorism has demonstrated that our nation and our Army are up to the task thrust upon us. We acknowledge the enduring contributions of the Army during the past two years, and our commitment remains constant. When the nation calls, we will fight and win decisively.

We are proud of you, our Army family — soldiers, civilians, retirees, veterans and your families, and you are always foremost in our prayers and in our actions. Thank you for your service, for your sacrifices and for your steadfast devotion to duty. Your courage, dedication to duty and selfless service to the nation are the hallmarks of the United States Army.

God bless each and every one of you and your families, God bless our magnificent Army and God bless America.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker
chief of staff
Les Brownlee
acting secretary of the Army

Goodbye to working family

As I get ready to go to Fort Bliss, Texas, today to meet my special soldier, my friend, my wife and a South Central CPOC employee, who has been in Baghdad, Iraq for the last three months supporting our military personnel, I am readying to be released from my position on Sept. 19.

I would like to take this opportunity to

thank all of the Corporate Information Center, and Jacobs ITSS personnel that I have had the good fortune to work with since early 1993. As a Desert Storm/Desert Shield veteran, it has been a tremendous sense of pride knowing the work I performed while on Redstone has helped many

See **Farewell** on page 3

Honest customer found at store

Thanks so very, very much to the person who found my military ID card in the Commissary parking lot and turned it in at the Commissary customer service office. How wonderful to know that there are still honest people in the world!

Name withheld by request

Quote of the week

'We can't all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by.'

—Will Rogers

Bicycle policy changes direction

I was so delighted to see that the Garrison has reversed previous policy and now believes that bicycles belong on the road and not on sidewalks or paths. I could not agree more, but I do hope the Garrison will take a few simple steps to make this transportation option safer.

Reckless motorists struck three commuting Redstone cyclists in recent memory. All three cyclists were doing nothing wrong, but all three paid dearly for choosing to save energy, reduce pollution, and improve their health. Two nearly paid with their life and are now permanently disabled. I myself was brushed twice in the 11 years I commuted to work by bicycle.

Recent blackouts and rising energy costs clearly point to the need to change our glutinous energy habits. Except for our neighbors in the frozen north, the United States uses far more energy per capita than any energy nation on earth.

We have forced ourselves to depend on individual motor vehicles that many of us cannot afford to buy or maintain. We cannot continue this cycle, as energy continues to become more scarce — no dinosaurs died last year to make petroleum — and more costly.

Bicycle commuting is an excellent way to save energy, improve health, and reduce pollution. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management says that a well-maintained car — and many are not well-maintained — produces its own weight in pollution every three months. One commuting cyclist can save at least 6 tons of pollution, 600 gallons of gas, and another 6 gallons of oil each year. We can lower our blood pressure and reduce our body weight — Alabama leads the nation in obesity. We

See **Bicycles** on page 3

An open lane random survey

What do you think of the Alabama school system?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



Linda Smith,
DoD civilian

"I think there is a lot of room for improvement. I think they need to evaluate teachers randomly and the teachers who are not performing should be allowed to retire, if they're eligible, or give them a chance to enter a program to get their masters' degree. When you're in education, I feel like you should keep up in your field. We want the best for our children."



Sherry Stanford,
DoD civilian

"I put my daughter in a private school. One of the main reasons is that I've always felt that the schools are insufficient. There are just not enough

teachers to cater to children with special needs. There is not enough money and I don't think there ever will be. For those reasons I was forced to pull my child out and put her into a private school. I think we're coming out even as far as what we got from a public school versus a private one and what I'm putting out of my pocket. As a whole I think the public schools need much, much improvement."



Ruth Teaford Baker,
retired military spouse

"I was favorite teacher of Alabama in 1980 and teacher of the year in Alabama in 1982. I've been a teacher, supervisor and principal. My idea for today is that we're top heavy. Too

much money is spent for the jobs at the top instead of in the classrooms. American homes are sending children ill prepared for school. If you can't control a child, you can't teach them. They're not controlled in the home, they're not controlled on the street, they're not controlled in the stores and they bring that into the school."

PFC Johnny Freeman, 2117th

"Personally, I think that Alabama schools need to pay more attention and focus on the students. A lot of kids these days don't have interest in school. They drop out early, just get a job and work. They don't get enough out of school. Teachers don't show interest in the students like they used to. The students don't feel like they're gaining anything from being there. I think just having more personal attention would help."



Redstone Rocket

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The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Sept. 5 — A soldier reported that he struck a hole on Patton Road damaging his personally-owned vehicle.

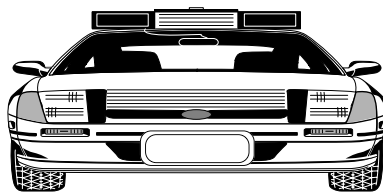
Sept. 5 — A family member reported that she had lost her dependent identification card while at an off-post AmSouth Bank.

Sept. 6 — A soldier was released to his unit after a verbal altercation became physical resulting in minor injuries. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Sept. 6 — An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle without a driver's license and no proof of liability insurance during an inspection at Gate 9. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

Sept. 8 — An individual observed operating his motor vehicle at Vincent Drive and Goss Road was stopped by officers from the Provost Marshal Office having previous knowledge that the individual's driver's license was suspended. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

Sept. 8 — An individual was found to



be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

Sept. 9 — A soldier reported that someone damaged his motor vehicle while it was parked and unattended at building 111. Damage was observed to the rear bumper of the vehicle.

Sept. 10 — A contractor reported that he lost his Redstone Arsenal badge and common access card while at the Post Exchange. A search of the area met with negative results.

Sept. 11 — An individual reported that someone damaged her privately-owned vehicle while it was parked and unattended at the Sparkman Center.

Violation notices issued: speeding, 6; driving with a suspended driver's license, 2; and no proof of liability insurance, 1.

Contractor takes many memories to Fort Bliss

Farewell

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of our veterans/soldiers. I can and do have fond memories, a great sense of pride, and dignity for the work that I was able to accomplish for the Corporate Information Center, Acquisition Management Center, and the Integrated Materiel Management Center of the Aviation and Missile Command.

My father, a retired master sergeant, gave me the following words that have been with me since 1986:

"Home is where your family is. Home is when you put your head down on a pillow with your family."

In that respect I have always felt a great part of my working family has been with the AMC, AMCOM and LOGSA community. I wish all of you well in the future and with the Logistics Modernization Program, and hope one day to be able to return to my working family. I will take many memories of friends, accomplishments and experience when I have to depart Sept. 19. Memories of teamwork, projects, long nights, the year 2000 and many other things will go with me. I shall

not remember the bad, the ugly, or the hard times or problems for there were far too little and too far and few between.

I have been blessed much more so than the lives of many military members, and others who must travel a great deal. To have spent the last 10 years working in one location, and eight years working and being able to return home to my family of 11 years and truly be home with them instead of many miles away, I wish to say thanks for those blessings.

To all of you I will remember your kindness, your professionalism, your leadership, your friendship, and most of all, I will remember those who I have worked with that are no longer with us, and Sept. 11. It's a small world and I hope to one day be back working with some of you and to be with my family.

I wish AMCOM the fondest wishes in obtaining the next Level of Capability Maturity Model certification and only wish that I could be a part of it.

Todd Allen Lusardi
ITSS contractor support,
Corporate Information Center

Motorists, bicyclists should share road

Bicycles

continued from page 2

can do a lot of good for ourselves and for others, but one careless motorist can wipe out all our good in seconds.

The Garrison can do much to improve the safety of cyclists. They could begin by strictly enforcing the installation's liberal speed limits — if the current fines do not stop speeders, perhaps they should be increased. They can put up more of the "Share the Road" signs like the one on Redstone Road between Gate 3 and the Rocket Auditorium. They can have gate guards deny access to any cyclist not wearing a helmet — most of the regular commuters always wear their helmets. They can have a Share the Road awareness campaign and sponsor another "Bike to Work" day during Energy Awareness Week this October.

Potential bicycle commuters can learn more about safe cycling from the Alabama Bicycle Coalition (AlaBike) website at <http://www.alabike.org>. I will be glad to speak with anyone who has questions about bicycle education or safety at (256) 658-5189 or e-mail: morton@bikebama.com.

Bicycle commuting is a win-win situation for everybody. Motorists please let dedicated cyclists save energy and pollution without endangering their lives.

Morton Archibald
AlaBike membership director

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "U.S. Army Garrison-Redstone and the installation Provost Marshal Office comply with Article 32, Chapter 1 of the Alabama Motor Vehicle Laws, stating that bicycles are deemed motor vehicle. As such, bicycles must comply with established traffic rules and regulations — obeying traffic signs and signals. We also do strictly enforce all speed limit and bicycle helmet laws.

"Redstone Arsenal, as with other military installations, enforces federal, state

and local traffic rules and regulations. The speed limits posted on military installations are historically lower than the local civilian population. AMCOM Regulation 210-2, app. B, paragraph 2-1 states 'Individuals riding bicycles or children in bicycle safety seats will wear a helmet,' which is enforced on Redstone.

"Bicycle riding is a favorite pastime for many. Unfortunately, it can be dangerous if both drivers of automobiles and riders of bicycles do not have the same 'share the road' mentality. According to the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute, 60 percent of bicycle deaths take place on major roads. There is an inherent danger associated for anyone who rides bicycles and motorcycles.

"Because cyclists are at great risk to their health and safety while sharing roadways with larger vehicles, we strongly encourage bicyclists utilizing the installation to follow some simple bicycling safety tips. They are as follows: Drive defensively; obey traffic signs and signals; never ride against traffic; do not weave between traffic; follow lane markings; do not pass on the right; scan the road behind; keep both hands ready to brake; dress appropriately — wear reflectorized or highly visible clothing; never ride with headphones — wear a helmet; use hand signals; ride in middle of lane in slow traffic; make eye contact with drivers; avoid road hazards; use lights at night; and keep bike in good repair.

"Even though cyclists may follow these guidelines and obey all rules, laws and regulations, accidents still occur. Because of the difficulty in seeing bicyclists and the general lack of overall protection, they are at much greater risk than the average motorist. Therefore, before deciding to ride, each cyclist must weigh the risks and take as many precautions as possible prior to embarking on their journey. Although this may not prevent all accidents, it will go a long way in reducing them. Remember to ride safely and always wear your helmet!"

More needed to support soldiers



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

WRITING TO SOLDIERS— Rose Marie Webb spends her Monday evenings writing to soldiers in Iraq. She is part of the Mayfair Church of Christ Military Outreach and Encouragement group.

Group sends packages to deployed troops

By **SANDY RIEBELING**

Staff writer

sandy@htimes.com

Before the potluck supper was cleared away, Rose Marie Webb was already writing notes to soldiers serving in Iraq. She'll write about 15 letters before the evening is done. She does it every week. There's no place she'd rather be.

"Sometimes I tell them about my father who was in the Marine Corps," said Webb, whose son is in the Air Force and on a list to be deployed. "I try to include some good news about what's going on here — sometimes about sports. Sometimes I just describe what's outside my window. Mainly, I just thank them for everything they're doing for us. If they weren't doing their job, there might not be a United States."

Webb is one of about 20 Mayfair Church of Christ members who meet every Monday night to send letters and care packages to servicemembers in combat conditions overseas. The support group, Military Outreach and Encouragement, began in March, the same week U.S. troops invaded Iraq, and has sent more than 900 letters and 120 packages to soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Some of our members here have sons who have been deployed," Ray Carlisle, MORE coordinator, said. "I was in the Marine Corps 27 years. You don't go in, occupy a country and leave in six weeks. We knew this was going to be a long haul. So a bunch of us agreed to get together and send letters of encouragement. We also spend time each week praying for them."

The ministry is not limited to church members and their families. In fact, the group participants actively seek out

names of servicemembers they can write to and send care packages. At its peak, the group had a list of 65 names but the numbers have dwindled to about 38.

"They don't have to be Church of Christ or even Christians for that matter," Carlisle said. "We're here to send our love and support to all the men and women in uniform."

Carlisle is among several group members who are former military and understand just how much that letter or package means. During his 27 years, he did two tours in Vietnam.

"I wrote him every day, seven days a week, without fail," Lee Carlisle, his wife, said. "Sometimes I wrote him twice a day. I have a soft spot in my heart for all the men and women over there. As long as they're there, I'm going to be doing something here to support them."

Group member Jonathan Criswell, retired Army special forces, now works at the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles and takes to heart the group's mission. "I know what it feels like to be far from home. And it's true — that old saying ... 'You can mess up a lot of things in the Army ... but there are two things you better never mess with — my pay and my mail.' It really feels good to get mail from back home."

Even after 60 years, World War II veteran Gilbert Webb remembers what it meant for soldiers to get letters from home.

"My mom wrote me and my brother (who was serving in the Navy)," Webb said. "Every soldier likes to get a letter; it doesn't matter who it's from."

The group tries to see that each soldier on the list gets an initial package of essentials with desert coveted items such as baby wipes, cord, socks, powdered laundry detergent, goggles, Bibles and a 90-day devotional.

See **Support** on page 5

Support

continued from page 4

"We also put a self-addressed card in the box so they can let us know it arrived and tell us what they need, then we can adjust the packages accordingly," Carlisle said. "Follow-up packages have stuff like candy, snacks, razors, shaving cream, cream and sugar packets, tooth brushes, magazines, just anything we've heard they'll like."



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

MORE RESPONSES— Members of the MORE support group at Mayfair Church of Christ read thank you notes sent from soldiers in Iraq, thanking them for the letters and goodies. From left are, Susan Hefley, Ray Carlisle, Ione McFolin and Lenora Gattis.

The real challenge isn't collecting the supplies or even packing and mailing them. Church members support the group through special offerings. The problem is keeping track of the soldiers as they move around and rotate back home.

"If someone has less than three months left, we won't send a package because chances are the box won't get there in time. We try not to waste the shipping money. It costs about \$15 to ship a box. But you know what? If we send over 10 packages and nine are returned, but just one package does some good, it's worth it," Carlisle said.

"You know, we could all do this individually," Larry Keel, assistant at the Recreation Center on post, said. "But getting together and doing it as a group — lifting these men and women up in prayer together, it makes it special. You can't beat this feeling of knowing the Lord's work is being done and you're a part of it. You can't touch it. It's a ministry we do because it's there. You can't not do it. We all look forward to it."

MORE members meet each week at the church, enjoy a potluck supper and then share a prayer and devotional time before delving into the letter writing and packaging of supplies.

This week, Carlisle read from a three-month devotional the group will send to their soldiers. The reading is from Romans 12:1 and deals with sacrifice. The commentary concludes: "...remember that a sacrifice is something you are willing to give for another, but it may also be just what is needed for your own survival."

For more information about MORE or to send in the name and address of a servicemember contact Carlisle at crlslee@aol.com or MORE Ministry, 1095 Carl T. Jones Drive, Huntsville, AL 35802.

Soldier appreciates group's efforts

This letter is a thank you note from a soldier in Iraq to Mayfair Church of Christ's Military Out Reach and Encouragement, a support group to deployed servicemembers that sends weekly letters and packages.

"Hello everyone at Mayfair Church of Christ,

"Well, we thought the month of August would be cooler but lo and behold it's in the 150s F. That's not cooler, but maybe next month will be better. We received your package and me and my section would love to thank you. I would also like to thank Belinda and Karen Gross and everyone else that has written in especially the M and M's. It makes us feel safer here when others pray for us. My battalion has received a lot of mortar attacks but still I believe nobody has been seriously hurt from the mortars because of people like you and your prayers. We are still within the triangle around Baghdad on the LSA so we'll probably be here the remainder we're here. We're still hearing we'll be here until next April. I hope that's not true but I guess we will do what we have to.

"I can't believe Lance Arm-

strong won again, and I also heard Auburn is ranked No. 6, so the bowl game should be interesting. If you could do me a big favor and pray for all the soldiers that are going through some kind of depression or just home sickness, and the year message didn't help with that at all. Oh, the Bible you sent has come in good use to me. I have went through Matthew and now on Mark. Also, the platoon loves the Frisbee ya'll sent. At night we'll meet up and throw it around but we're running in powdered dirt so we can't play for too long or everyone starts coughing. The sanitary conditions are getting better, but to tell the truth, I will never look at a toilet or bathtub the same way again. Ha Ha. OK, I have to get back to work, but we love and can't wait to see everyone when we return and I look forward to meeting everyone at Mayfair and thank you a lot for everything."

Love,

Guy C. Allard

P.S. Thanks also for the baby wipes. You wouldn't believe what all they're used for!

(Editor's note: The letter was signed by eight other soldiers in Allard's section.)

Combined Federal Campaign sets kickoff celebration

'You are not alone' theme for '03 drive

By **EARL JOHNSON**
For the Rocket

The 2003 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is gearing up for an exciting kickoff celebration. The celebration will begin with an agency (charity) fair Sept. 23, from 1-3 p.m. at Marshall Space Flight Center's building 4316.

At the agency fair there will be representatives from different agencies providing information on their services to the communities. The kickoff celebration will be held Sept. 24 at 9 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, serves as chairman for the campaign.

John Malone, Lite 96.9 WRSA's morning show host and vice president for programming, will be our guest speaker, along with several persons who will share their personal testimonies on how CFC has helped them in their times of need. The Marching Maroon and White Band of Alabama A&M University will provide inspirational music. The Sparkman High School Drill Team will also perform. Many door prizes will be available for persons attending.

Make commitment

Please make a commitment to be a part of CFC. As we just observed the second anniversary of the terrorist attacks of

Sept. 11, 2001, let us all commit ourselves to making a difference in the lives of those who continue to struggle with overcoming the devastation. Many of the charitable agencies receiving funds from CFC were there administrating aid and assistance on 9/11, and they continue today to assist persons still coping with 9/11's agony and devastation.

This year will be an especially challenging one for many local charities who receive state funds. The many services that these charities provide touch all of our lives at some point or another. The most important goal of the CFC is to have the resources available to meet the needs that arise. The CFC contributions are an investment in our communities and country from the gracious heart of the many federal workers of northern Alabama and southern Tennessee.

Record-setting year

Our goal for 2002 was \$1.6 million and we raised \$1,849,235, the most ever in the history of our campaign. Again this year our goal is set at \$1.6 million; however with your support, we will surpass last year's record.

The Tennessee Valley campaign includes six Alabama counties — Madison, Morgan, Marshall, Cullman, Lawrence and Limestone — plus Lincoln County, Tenn. Personnel from 37 federal agencies in these counties make up the Local Federal Coordinating Committee. They work under a structure established by the Office of Per-

sonnel Management and in partnership with a local non-profit organization.

Local non-profit campaign coordinators are called Principal Combined Fund Organizations. PCFOs are selected by the coordinating committee and work as contractors under the committee's direction. United Way of Madison County serves the campaign in that capacity. The coordinating committee members oversee the solicitation of contributions from their

fellow federal workers. These contributions, either in cash or payroll deductions, are forwarded to the principal combined fund organization which distributes them to the charities designated by individual federal donors.

Editor's note: Earl Johnson is chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Combined Federal Campaign.

Turn crafting into cash at Thrift Shop fair



Photo by Sandy Riebeling
CROCHET ON DISPLAY— Thrift Shop volunteer Don Van Tassell folds the blanket crocheted by fellow volunteer Betty Reed. The Shop will have a craft fair Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

It took Betty Reed nearly 60 hours to crochet the blanket she has for sale at the Thrift Shop. She's one of only a few crafters to offer their wares at the store but with the upcoming Craft Fair, the manager hopes to add more crafters to the roster and more crafts to the shelves.

The Thrift Shop will hold a Craft Fair Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the store on Hercules Road. Crafters pay a table fee of \$10 but keep all their profits.

"We want to let people know that we take crafts for consignment," Isabel Boicourt, Thrift Shop manager, said. "The money we raise here is given back to the community through charitable donations."

The shop will open at 8:30 a.m. Oct. 4 for crafters to set up. For more information or to reserve a table, call the shop at 881-6992.

Military health care signup should start from birth

TRICARE RELEASE

As a parent of a newborn infant, one of the first decisions you probably made, was deciding on a name for your newborn son or daughter. As a beneficiary of the Department of Defense Military Health System, the second and most important decision you can make is to enroll your newborn infant in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System as soon as possible after birth.

By enrolling your newborn in DEERS, you establish Tricare eligibility for the infant and avoid potential claims problems or other financial hardships for your family in the future. As a new parent, enrolling your baby in DEERS provides you the comfort of knowing your baby will remain Tricare eligible and able to receive the essential well baby and pediatric health care he or she needs.

A newborn infant is covered as a Tricare Prime beneficiary in DEERS for the first 120 days after birth — as long as one additional family member is enrolled in Tricare Prime or Tricare Prime Remote. After the initial 120 days, any claim submitted for a newborn will process as Tricare Standard until the infant is enrolled

in DEERS and Tricare Prime, or the infant's Tricare Standard eligibility ends. Eligibility for Tricare Standard benefits ends 365 days after birth for any newborn infant who is not enrolled in DEERS.

Uniformed services' sponsors are responsible for keeping Tricare eligibility in DEERS for family members current and up-to-date. To establish Tricare eligibility for a newborn in DEERS, parents or legal guardians must submit a certificate of "live birth" from a hospital or Tricare approved birthing center. They must also provide a copy of a verified and approved DD Form 1172 "Application for Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card" signed by the sponsor.

For more information on enrolling a newborn baby in DEERS, parents or guardians may contact or visit the nearest military personnel office, identification card issuing facility, or contact the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office telephone center at (800) 538-9552. A list of military ID card facilities is available at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/. Additional information on DEERS eligibility is available on the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm.



Photo by Larry Winters

Young fund-raiser

Lida Stevens, 13, daughter of Marcia Stevens of the AMCOM Legal Office, raised \$405 for Army Emergency Relief on July 4 at the Monte Sano Club festivities. She is an eighth-grader at Holy Family School.

Navigation lab puts new technology on course

Test equipment deemed unique

By JIM BOWNE
For the Rocket

What do 2-Axis Rate and Indexing Tables with Environmental Chambers, Turn Tilt Tables, Linear and Angular Vibration Tables, High-G Precision and Precision Direct Drive Centrifuges, Global Positioning System Satellite Simulators, and an In-House Machine Shop have in common?

They are all part of a unique collection of test equipment that fills the Navigation Technology Lab at the Research Development and Engineering Center. It is the

only such lab in the Army's vast network of laboratories.

The lab's test equipment, including the concrete isolation pads, is worth about \$12 million.

"The Navigation Technology Lab provides the Army and our users with a unique research and development asset," Steve Cayson, chief of the navigation and control technology branch of the Applied Sensors, Guidance and Electronics Directorate, said. "The equipment in the lab represents the broadest collection of navigation sensor and system test capability, and the Precision High-G Centrifuge is one-of-a-kind."

"The test capabilities available in this lab are crucial in identifying sensors and systems that will enable FCS (Future

Combat Systems) and next-generation technologies. Our strong partnerships with industry also ensure that we are developing constantly a knowledge base of the fielded systems and that we can address quickly any issues that may arise with our customers."

The navigation and control technology branch provides central Army oversight of research and development in inertial systems and components for missiles, aircraft and drones, land navigation, and other applications, such as inertial land surveying and inertial fuzing. This function has been subsequently expanded to encompass Global Positioning System technology.

See Lab on page 9



Photo by Sharon Dudley

TAKING MEASURE— Chris Roberts prepares a CKEM Inertial Measurement Unit for testing in the High-G Centrifuge.

Air Force engineering center has totally hot test facility

Missile systems can adapt thermal protection materials

ARNOLD AFB RELEASE

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, Tenn. — Test crews in the Air Force's Arnold Engineering Development Center's Arc Heater Test Facility H-3 successfully completed their first operational use of a new aerothermal test capability unavail-

able elsewhere in the world.

During recent heat shield and antenna window tests, the upgraded arc heater provided high-temperature flow fields more than twice those previously available for testing large-and full-scale reentry and missile test articles. They were also the first "long-dwell" reentry tests exposing the materials long enough to simulate the total heat input experienced during a realistic reentry and the first time a full-scale reentry antenna window test

had been tested at maximum reentry ground test conditions.

AEDC employees conducted the tests for the Naval Surface Warfare Center's Reentry Systems Applications Program and the Air Force Reentry Vehicle Applications Program and Textron Defense Systems.

During four 15-second test runs, H-3 test crews subjected one full-scale antenna window and seven heat shield material samples to temperatures and pressures typical of what the materials could experience upon reentry into the earth's atmosphere. The samples are candidate replacements for thermal protection materials used on hypersonic reentry vehicles such as those incorporated into USAF Intercontinental Ballistic Missile and Navy Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile systems.

"Many composite material samples for high-speed vehicles cannot be scaled down sufficiently to allow performance testing in the smaller H-1 arc heater," 1st

Lt Tim Budke, AEDC project manager, said. "The larger H-3 facility provides a much larger high-temperature flow field for testing of larger-scale heat shields and antenna windows. This represents a valuable new test capability for reentry and missile systems such as the Navy's Trident SLBM and the USAF Peacekeeper and Minuteman ICBMs."

The H-3 large arc heater was developed at AEDC during the 1990s to support aerothermal testing for future hypersonic systems. The new H-3 capabilities resulted from a 15-month upgrade and reactivation project adding a new model injection system and modifying the facility's cooling water systems and H-3 reactivation.

The upgrades, funded by an agreement between Air Force Materiel Command, the NSWC and the RVAP, were directed at demonstrating initial operating capability of the H-3 large arc heater. The checkout and calibration runs completed to date were the first operational runs in the facility since 1997.

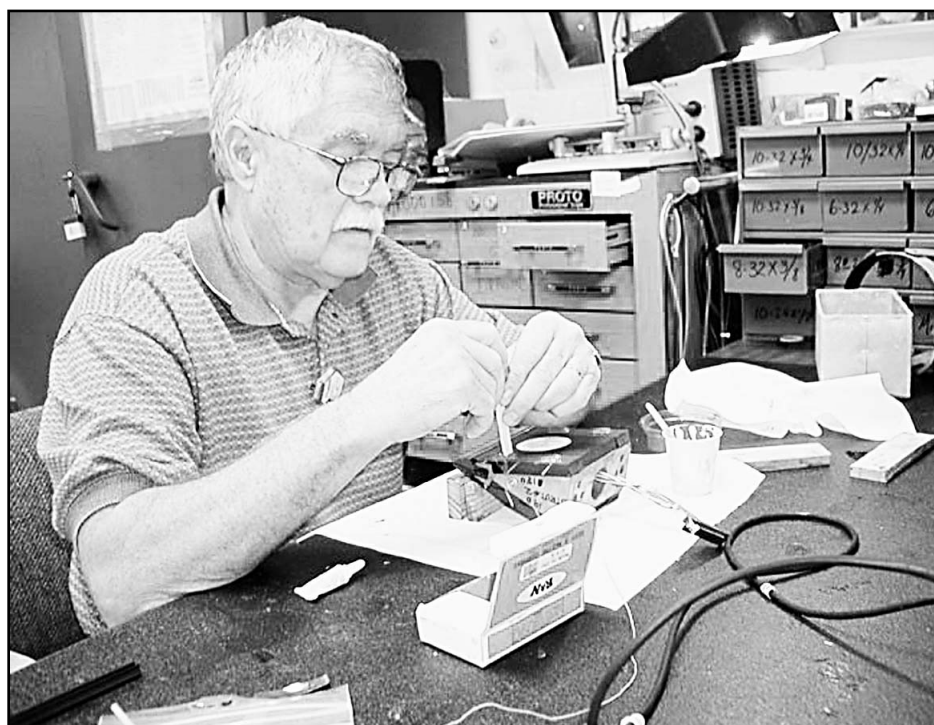


Photo by Kenneth Housch

TEST SAMPLE— Eddie Brannon, instrument technician, builds up a test sample.

Lab

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The branch has a two-fold mission: It conducts and supports inertial and GPS research, exploratory, and advanced developments; and it provides technical support to the project offices in the area of inertial and GPS technologies.

This mission has grown to include efforts for Marshall Space Flight Center and the Missile Space and Intelligence Center. It also includes efforts for the Space and Missile Defense Command, scheduled to move onto the Arsenal upon completion of SMDC's new facility.

In addition the branch works navigation issues such as initialization, calibration, compensation, algorithm development, test and evaluation, analysis, simulation, and transfer alignment. It also works error budgets, timelines, trade studies, industry surveys, specification development, data fusion, system integration, flight test support, and post-flight analysis.

The Navigation Technology Lab was built in the 1960s.

"It was used to test the Army's early missile systems, such as Lance, Dragon,

Hawk, TOW, the Pershing and the Patriot, among others," Chris Roberts, the navigation technology team leader, said. "Today, full facilities and instrumentation are in place to conduct performance evaluations of inertial and GPS systems, and components over temperature, acceleration, linear vibration, angular vibration, and shock environments."

The branch has a long history of providing technical support related to inertial systems and components, as well as GPS systems for development and demonstration programs. That support includes analysis, test, evaluation, integration, and modeling, as well as digital and hardware-in-the-loop simulations of navigation systems.

Programs supported include the Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System Advanced Technology Demonstration and Engineering Manufacturing Development, Low-Cost Precision Kill, the Compact Kinetic Energy Missile, Enhanced Fiber Optic Guided Missile, Army Tactical Missile System Block 1A EMD, Army TACMS 2000, MLRS Improved Fire Control System, Low Cost Guidance and Navigation Unit, and the GPS Guidance Package



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

New senior exec

Dr. Paul Ruffin of Research Development and Engineering Center is congratulated by AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen on achieving a senior executive service position. He is a senior research scientist in the Applied Sensors Guidance and Electronics Directorate.

Military retirees giving back to community

Installation council helps with benefits

By KIM MASON
For the Rocket

Most consider retirement a time to relax. While this may be true for some, there are several military retirees out there who still work by volunteering on the Redstone Arsenal Military Retiree Advisory Council.

The Retiree Council was formed in September 1975 to fill an Army requirement. The council's prime goal is to assist retirees to attain benefits that they are entitled to such as the Post Exchange, Commissary, health care, and morale wel-

fare and recreation. The council also works year-round to put together the annual Retiree Appreciation Day, slated Saturday morning at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Retired MSgt. Bob Sawada has served on the council since its creation 28 years ago.

"We are a bridge between the commanding general, the military retiree community and those on active duty," he said.

The members serve on various committees including golf, PX/Commissary, medical, noncommissioned officers, officers, civilians and Bicentennial Chapel.

'We are a bridge between the commanding general, the military retiree community and those on active duty.'

— Retired MSgt. Bob Sawada

The committee members are attentive to the needs of their fellow retirees and report back any issues to the council for further action.

There are 25 active council members from all branches of service. The council represents more than 55,000 retirees and their fami-

lies from throughout the state as well as parts of Tennessee, Georgia and Mississippi. The co-chairmen are retired Col. George Shepard and retired CSM Robert Weir.

The members also consider their work a service to the active duty military. "Those are the guys we are trying to help in the long run," retired Lt. Col. Robert Sullivan said.

The council can make a difference on issues of concern for military retirees. Each year installation retiree councils submit issues and concerns to the Washington Retiree Council for resolution. Once in Washington, these issues may be presented to the chief of staff and even to Congress for further resolution.

Lifetime health care was previously a problem for military retirees, for example. Once retirees reached 65, they were dropped by their regular health care provider, Tricare, and had to use Medicare solely. Due to financial problems associated with this change, the council pushed the issue to Washington; and Tricare for Life was signed by President Bush in



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PROUD TO SERVE— Retired MSgt. Bob Sawada, receiving the Commander's Award for Public Service last November, has served on the Military Retiree Advisory Council for 28 years.

Military retirees have their day Saturday

2003 retiree appreciation day showcases available benefits

How do military retirees learn what's available and what they should be doing to get the most from their benefits?

One way is by attending annual Retiree Appreciation Day, Saturday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Beginning that morning at 7, a continental breakfast will be served and attendees will have the chance to socialize before the formal opening of the event at 8. Announcements, an opening ceremony and a welcoming address by Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, post commander, will precede the guest speaker, retired Lt. Gen. John Dubia, co-chairman of the Chief of Staff of the Army Retiree Council.

Offices with services of benefit to retirees will present information so that attendees will know not only what is available to them, but why they should make use of their services. Last year's event saw 1,500 retirees and dependents in attendance. Ernest Weir, co-chairman

of the Redstone Retiree Council, said he expects a similar turnout this year.

Lunch is available by reservation. A meal of roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, buttered carrots and green bean casserole with rolls, dessert and a drink will be served in the cafeteria at building 5302 for \$8 per person. No meal tickets will be sold at the door this year, so reservations must be made beforehand. The Huntsville Concert Band will provide music in the courtyard. After lunch, awards will be presented. Mike Gray of the Veterans Administration will close out the formal portion of the day.

A "county fair" of exhibits and services for retirees will be set up in the lobby of the auditorium.

Attendees should enter through Gates 1, 9 or 10 on the day of the event. Those without a vehicle sticker should bring photo ID for themselves and all passengers, one of which must possess a valid military ID. For more information on Retiree Appreciation Day events, scheduling, lunch reservations or for assistance, call Cynthia Anderson, retirement services officer, at 876-2022.

Army soldier, NCO of year competitions under way

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Two dozen of the Army's finest soldiers from major commands around the world are competing at Fort Lee, Va., and Washington, D.C., in the Army's second Soldier of the Year and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Competition, Sept. 13-19.

The soldiers and sergeants vying for the Army titles have already won preliminary competitions held by major Army commands. The competitors for Soldier of the Year must be specialists or below; and the competitors for NCO of the Year

represent the ranks of corporal through sergeants first class.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley obtained approval not long after taking office in June 2000, to conduct an Army-level competition.

"We have the best Army in the world, and naming its top soldier and sergeant seemed like a way to honor them and the great soldiers the winners will represent," he said. "We have conducted these competitions at the battalion, brigade, division, corps and major command level for years — this just seemed like a logical step to take."

■ 'Extraordinary program' marks 9/11 anniversary

Remembrance

continued from page 1

commanding general, said in his closing remarks.

Members of the audience agreed. "I thought it was fantastic," Carolyn Allyn of Internal Review and Audit Compliance said.

"I thought it was excellent," Fred Hinckley of the Garrison said. "Sam (Wright) and the committee did an excellent job, very well thought out."

Wright, a senior systems analyst with Jacobs Sverdrup contractor to Corporate Information Center, was the program's chairman and organizer. "And this is actually my dream from last year when we first started," he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HONORING NATION— Gena Jones sings the national anthem in Bob Jones Auditorium.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MEANINGFUL FOLDS— The honor guard folds the American flag.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

EMERGENCY RESPONSE— Representatives from local firefighters, police and emergency medical services light candles in observance of the terrorist attacks.



Mary Petty/Photo Lab

New director

Rod Summers accepts the charter as the director of the Non-Line-of-Sight Launcher System Task Force from Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, the program executive officer for tactical missiles.

■ Thomas visited debris of World Trade Center in 2002

Thomas

continued from page 1

And being there made me feel an integral part of that group.

“That could have been your family (among the victims),” he said. “It was a very emotional visit. It really, really was. It really had a great emotional impact on me.”

He also thought about the U.S. servicemembers engaged in the war against terrorism. “It made me want to do an even better job to ensure that the U.S. Army is ready to respond to acts of terrorism and any kind of act that threatens the American way of life,” he said. “And of course some anger was in there, too.”

Thomas graduated from Alabama A&M University in 1968 with a bachelor’s degree in history and government. He earned a master’s of business administration in 1976 and a master’s in secondary education in 1979, both from A&M. He worked in the Integrated Materiel Management Center from 1968 until taking early retirement in 1994 as a GM-14 inventory management specialist.

After retiring from the government, he worked for a year and a half in the development and alumni office as a fund-raiser for Alabama A&M. He returned to Redstone 2000-01 as a senior logistics analyst

for LESCO (Logistics Engineering & Environmental Support Services Inc.), a contractor working on the single stock fund in support of Integrated Materiel Management Center. He began working for Dynetics in August 2001 in support of the Army logistics modernization programs through the single stock fund, under contract for the Logistics Support Activity.

Survivors include his wife, Rose Merry; two children: daughter, Felicia DeRamus of Birmingham, and son, Eric II of Huntsville; three sisters, Gwendolyn Harris of Fairfield, Gloria Wilkerson of Montgomery and Eugenia Ramsey of Fairfield; a brother, Bryon Thomas of Birmingham; two sisters-in-law, Annie Ruth Birchfield of Lawton, Okla., and Debbie Perdue of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; two brothers-in-law, Joseph Perdue of Port St. Lucie and Johnny Birchfield of Lawton; a granddaughter, Alena Williams DeRamus; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and other family members and friends.

At the time of the May 2002 article, Felicia was a procurement analyst for Honda of Alabama in Lincoln; and Eric II was a private first class in the Marine Reserve and a student at Alabama A&M.

“Sept. 11, 1968 was when I started working for the Army here at Redstone,” Thomas said in the article. “Isn’t that ironic?”

Patch the Pirate Club drops anchor at chapel

Children in grades K-5 invited to join the crew

By **SANDY RIEBELING**
Staff writer
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It's an all aboard call for new crewmembers of the Protestant Patch the Pirate Club at Bicentennial Chapel.

The club is open to boys and girls in grades kindergarten through fifth and meets every Wednesday from 3:30-5 p.m. Anyone able to gain entrance to the Arsenal is invited to join. Seven children attended the first meeting Sept. 3 and even more came last week.

"We have Club Beyond for our older kids but the children of the chapel were asking for something for them," Chris Fishel, Chapel Sunday school teacher and club captain, said. "This is a great program for the younger ones because it has a lot of built-in rewards each week. My son, Daniel, who's also my co-captain, attended the program when we were in Japan. He loved it."

Crewmembers are given a sailor's hat and book at their first meeting. They earn their first big reward, their red pirate's sash, for memorizing the club's verse and sailor salute, which is basically the creed and mission of the program, based on Colossians

3:16 and a pledge to serve and obey Christ.

Each week children are rewarded with stars on a display board for attendance, knowing their weekly Bible verse and for doing daily devotions from the Patch the Pirate book. Plastic gold pins to be worn on their caps can be earned monthly by achieving all the weekly goals within the month. At the end of the program year, which is nine months because they don't meet during the summer, crewmembers who have earned all their pins are given a larger, purple Faithful Servant pin.

By his second meeting, crewmember Marc Johnson declared, "I love it 'cause it's fun. The verse was pretty good, too."

Marc's mother was excited about the program as well, because her two older sons are in Club Beyond and doing very well. "This gives Marc a place to go and learn and have some fun," she said.

Fishel has a few more parent volunteers ready to come onboard as the club grows. Her goal is at least 25 children. She's also trying to figure out how to build a pirate ship hull that the kids can enjoy during meetings but is collapsible for storage during the week.

"We'll figure out something," she said. She's spending the first few weeks getting the children into the program and getting things moving in the right direction. One meeting each month is designated for the

parents to come and enjoy a program the children perform. Fishel is working on plans to do a quarterly concert either in a

church service or out in the community.

For more information, call Fishel at 489-0939 or 520-3670.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

ONE PIRATE TO ANOTHER— Daniel Fishel, former Patch the Pirate club member, ties the sash of new club member Marc Johnson. The Protestant Patch club set sail two weeks ago at Bicentennial Chapel.

Area students have excellent adventure in Army labs

Cell phones ringing for Sept. 9 event

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

Redstone Arsenal had more than its normal share of cell phones when 125 area high school juniors and seniors visited last week.

One hundred and fifteen students participated in the Adventures in Engineering program, and 10 Sparkman High ROTC students visited the Research Development and Engineering Center's Software Engineering Directorate on Sept. 9 — and the counter was filled with cell phones when the students were required to check them at the door. But the employees of SED weren't fazed by the large number of cell phones — instead they were excited to see the largest group of students yet to visit the facility.

"We always have a great time when the kids visit," Kathy Crawford of SED said.

The students were welcomed to SED by the RDEC's deputy director, Lt. Col. Tom Economy. Economy made an impressive entrance on a Segway (scooter) Transportation System. The students were surprised to see the Segway, but Economy immediately explained its significance. "The gyros used for the Segway are also being used for one of our missile guidance systems," he said.

Economy went on to explain that adopting available technologies to military weapons systems is one of the keys to the Army's future, and the Army needs innovative doers and thinkers to continue



Photo by Kimberly Danford

TACTICAL TALK— Alice Sheppard of SED tells Sparkman High ROTC students about the Cougar Unmanned Ground Vehicle.

its dominance.

In addition to getting some hands-on time with the Segway, the students also learned about Unmanned Ground and Aerial Vehicles, the Multiple Launch Rocket System, and training simulators for weapons systems like the M-16, Javelin and the Kiowa Warrior helicopter.

Candi Dussault and Daniel Beck of Huntsville High were able to "fly" a Kiowa using the training simulator and were impressed at the experience they gained at SED. "We have a Cessna simulator at school, but we haven't had the

opportunity to use it," Beck said. Dussault and Beck both expressed awe at SED's technology and indicated an interest in seeing more facilities at Redstone after seeing the variety of work being performed by the Army.

In addition to SED, the Adventures in Engineering students also visited the Mis-

sile and Space Intelligence Center and the Space and Missile Defense Command's Advanced Research Center; Marshall Space Flight Center; and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. The Adventures in Engineering program is an extension of the annual Technical Excellence in Aviation, Missiles and Space (TEAMS) Conference held each spring. Students were invited by the Huntsville-Madison Chamber of Commerce through their schools to participate in the day-long program.

The Adventures in Engineering program is designed to interest students in science and engineering careers. This year's Adventures in Engineering day was sponsored by the Army Space and Missile Defense Association, the National Defense Industrial Association and the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

The Sparkman Junior ROTC visit was arranged by their commander so the students (and possibly future soldiers) could get a chance to see current and future technologies of the Army.

"Lt. Col. Walker, our commander, really encouraged us to take advantage of this visit and see what's going on," Junior ROTC Capt. Walter Jones said.

The day proved to be tiring but productive. "We don't normally have two groups on the same day, but once we have everything set up for a tour, it's good to have as many students as possible learn about what we do," Crawford said. And all cell phones were returned with no problem.



Photo by Kim Gillespie

SCOOTER— Lt. Col. Tom Economy, RDEC deputy director, lets Lee High student William Huston demonstrate the Segway scooter during the Adventures in Engineering program's visit to SED.

World War II POW recalls 29 months of captivity

Weight dropped to less than 80

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer
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Some of the most tragic and heart-breaking stories that come out of wars and conflicts are of those that have been captured or lost. National POW/MIA Recognition Day, the third Friday of every September, is designed to remember the lives and stories of these brave servicemembers. Every one has a story to tell, although those of many of the missing remain a mystery. Lee Roy Hoekenschneider is only one face of many.

Hoekenschneider lied about his age so that he could join the Colorado National Guard at 16, hoping to become involved with the mounting war in Europe. His unit was mobilized and sent south to Tullahoma, Tenn. When the likelihood of his unit going to the action seemed slim, Hoekenschneider volunteered for the overseas task force.

"I was young and liked brass buttons, so I decided to join the regular Army," he says. "That was on Friday. On Saturday I got my orders and on Sunday was the Pearl Harbor invasion."



Courtesy photo

READY TO FIGHT— An idealistic young Lee Roy Hoekenschneider didn't know where the war would take him.

He bid farewell to friends, fellow guardsmen and a girl named Elsie he had met at Catholic mass on a visit to Huntsville. He traveled on to England before boarding a flat bottomed channel boat for North Africa. One of 500 soldiers

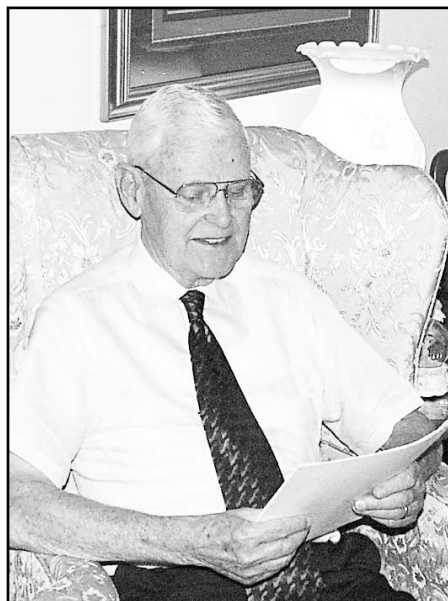


Photo by Kelley Lane

HOME SWEET HOME— Today's comforts of home are a far cry from his extended stay in Europe during World War II.

on board, he talked with an English priest before they landed, who placed a rosary around Hoekenschneider's neck so that he would be identified as Catholic and receive last rites should he be killed in combat. It was a small thing that he credits with saving his life later on.

Twenty-eight days after the African invasion, he found himself on patrol as a forward observer with the field artillery of Headquarters Battery Reconnaissance. "We met a guard just down the road a ways and he said 'Oh, the enemy's about two miles up the road,'" Hoekenschneider said. "Of course, we found out afterwards that he was already two miles behind them."

Hoekenschneider's patrol was captured. He became one of the first eight Americans taken prisoner in the North African campaign. They were sent to the coast for transport into Italy. The airfield where they were sent was bombed and the prisoners took cover under planes on the airfield. Many of those planes were hit and destroyed, including the one immediately next to the one Hoekenschneider was under.

Hoekenschneider was moved among several camps in Italy. "When Italy capitulated, orders were sent to us to stay in the camps we were in until the Allies could get to us — but to take precautions," he said. They made outposts around their camp and prepared an escape route, should they need it. A nearby Italian family fed the small, sickly group and tried to

keep their spirits high. "We played Monopoly, and believe me that was fun," Hoekenschneider quipped. "They couldn't speak English and we couldn't speak Italian."

They remained in the area until the Germans were alerted of their presence. "One Sunday, one of the Italians brought their son," he said. "They introduced us and though he was dressed in civilian clothes, when I saw him I knew right away that he was a G.I., there was no question about that."

Later that evening, Hoekenschneider was beset by an ominous feeling. The general health of the group made leaving the area impossible and the next morning at daylight they were overrun by German paratroopers. Hoekenschneider knew that the paratroopers by reputation did not take prisoners. The group was then lined up to be shot. Something in his appearance, however, caught the eye of an officer. "This German officer started talking to me in German. I may have a German name, but I don't have much vocabulary in German," he said. "He started reaching into his billfold and as I looked down I saw the crucifix on the rosary, still around my neck, that the English chaplain had given me. The German officer had seen that and was showing me pictures of his family. He was Catholic, too." The officer changed his mind about the fate of the prisoners. He ordered them shipped to Germany.

The prisoners were put into boxcars meant to hold either 40 people or eight animals. Hoekenschneider estimates that more than 50 prisoners of various nationalities were packed into his car, with only one window to allow both the entrance of fresh air and the exit of waste. It was standing room only. Hoekenschneider said that they would try to bunch together even more to make a little more room for those who collapsed. One soldier, Hoekenschneider said, pushed a German soldier from the train. He was dragged from the car and beaten to the point of near death and insanity. They were fed once a day, but never allowed off the car as they journeyed through the Alps and into Germany.

Once they reached Germany, their travels were not over. The prisoners were periodically moved as the war changed around them. "They were moving us, trying to keep us away from the Russians," Hoekenschneider said. "We were a reward for the Germans. They could use us to bargain with."

See Captivity on page 17

Captivity

continued from page 16

They were marched at gunpoint, sick and injured, from camp to camp as their captors saw fit, sometimes for days. Those unable to walk were shot along the way. Hoekenschneider worried that he would be one of those discarded when his knees began to fail him. A medic among the group made bandages from strips of his own clothing to bind them. He told Hoekenschneider not to sit when they stopped to rest for fear that he would be unable to regain his feet. With the help of his fellow prisoners, he was able to make it to Brandenburg as the German captors tried to march them into Norway, the end of the war drawing near. Russian troops were bombing the city; the prisoners would be moved again without rest after the six-day march they had just completed.

"We had to cross a bridge to get into the town," Hoekenschneider said. "The Russians started closing in, so they started moving us out. They moved us out in groups. I was in the first group that they sent back across the bridge. There was ninety-eight of us in that

group. Right behind us, they blew up the bridge. They flattened the thing. I have never met anybody or heard anybody say that they came from Brandenburg after us. I don't know if any of the other prisoners ever lived or not."

Even as sick and battered POWs, they struggled to be good soldiers and help the war effort as best they could from their position. Hoekenschneider said that while they were camped with-

'I wouldn't take a million dollars for what I learned, but I wouldn't take a dime to go through it again.'

— Lee Roy Hoekenschneider

in bombing range of Berlin, flares would be dropped in the corner of their camp so that Allied forces would be able to use them as a turning point for bombing runs. The prisoners stood in the freezing cold for 14 hours

while their captors searched for radio equipment they thought was being used to give away their position.

"The German that searched me reached into my watch pocket and found a watch that I had in there that I 'd gotten in England," he says. "It was really a compass. If he had pulled it out and opened it, I would have been shot."

Hoekenschneider would end the Fuhrer's tour of Europe on the shores of the Elbe River. The Allies were approaching the other side. The prisoners believed the Germans intended to take them across the river and onward.

Instead, one of their escorts gave them better news. "He said 'The Allies are just across the water there. Good luck.' They had done everything to keep us up to the last minute, but then they took off, too," Hoekenschneider said. His days as a prisoner of war were over. It was April 27, 1945. He had spent roughly 29 months as a captive.

Hoekenschneider returned home on May 27, 1945. He married his Huntsville sweetheart, Elsie, one month to the day later. She had waited for him.

"After I met him, I knew I didn't want anyone else," she said. "Others tried to get me to forget him, but I couldn't."

A healthy 150 pounds at the onset of the war, he came home weighing less than 80, with a head of gray hair at age 21. Over two years of starvation had taken its toll, both mentally and physically. While they had been prisoners, he and others in the camp would talk about the richest, most magnificent meals they had eaten before.

Hoekenschneider would speak of a job he had held in an ice cream parlor, making banana splits. When the war was over, he had nightmares about them. He dreamt that he was making banana splits for all the prisoners and when they were all served and it was finally his turn, nothing was left for him. Elsie, in a moment of insight, made a large banana split one day while her husband was in the throes of these nightmares. When he awoke, she presented it to him, thinking they

would share it. She said he ate the entire thing. Hoekenschneider never had nightmares again.

Years of stomach problems from his captivity culminated in the removal of part of his stomach, which was paper-thin and had grown to his spine. Since his surgery he has been able to eat as he pleased. He refuses to eat turnips, however, one of the main ingredients in the watery broth served to him by the Germans. He also has no desire to recreate a delicacy concocted by his fellow prisoners during the war. They would fashion a cake out of ingredients from Red Cross packets — crackers, raisins and toothpaste.

"When I saw one of the other POWs years later that's the first thing he asked, if I had made a cake," he said. "I said no, but he replied 'We baked one, but no one would eat it. We even tried to give it to the dog and it wouldn't eat it.' It was good then, though."

The couple decided to stay in Huntsville and have remained in the community for 58 years, raising seven children. They also have 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, with another on the way.

Although his experience was at best difficult, Hoekenschneider said its lessons are invaluable.

"I wouldn't take a million dollars for what I learned, but I wouldn't take a dime to go through it again," he said. "You learn a lot about people when they're starving."

HHC 59th wins softball championship

Tournament favorite beats 2nd-seed Delta

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

HHC 59th seemed destined to make it this far.

The 59th, which won the preseason and regular season, advanced to the post-season championship final by beating Delta 12-8 on Sept. 10. Delta, the tournament's second seed, advanced to the final by beating Bravo 14-4 on Sept. 11 after Bravo stopped Charlie 19-4.

HHC 59th beat Delta 17-2 in the final Monday night. The 59th finished 20-2 and Delta 18-5.

"I think if there was one team out there that was a real rival to us, it was Delta Company," 59th catcher Hector Rivera said. "These guys all know each other, too. So there's always been you know, not trash talking but smack talking between the two teams."

"The middle of my infield did not perform like they should've," Delta coach/third baseman Johnny Kennedy said after the 59th sent his team to the losers' bracket. "But the big thing is a team win is a team win, and a team loss is a team loss. And you know, last night (Sept. 10) the better team won."

Lee Diaz went 2-for-4 with a two-run homer, double and five RBIs for the 59th. Michael McGilton had a solo homer, single and two RBIs. Jerry McIntyre went 2-for-4 with two doubles and two RBIs.

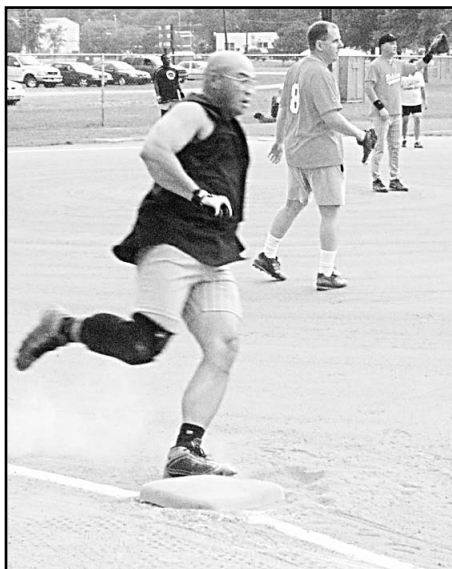


Photo by Skip Vaughn
GOING FOR TWO— Delta's Johnny Kennedy rounds first base for a first-inning double against HHC 59th on Sept. 10. Nearby is 59th first baseman Brett Holder (8).

Glenn Lundy added two hits and an RBI. "Very hard-fought game," McGilton, the 59th pitcher, said. "The first inning was a key for us. We let them score one run and we scored five that first inning. The second inning they scored five runs and we didn't score any. So they were up 6-5 (after two innings). From the third inning on, they scored one in the third and one in the fourth and that was it. So our defense shut them down, absolutely out-



Photo by Skip Vaughn
SPECIAL DELIVERY— Michael McGilton warms up on the mound for top-seeded HHC 59th.

standing defense. "The key to our defense was (Patrick) Perry in right field. Perry threw out three people — three assists from the outfield. So that's pretty significant." The 59th scored three runs in the third, two in the fourth and one apiece in the fifth and sixth. Kennedy went 2-for-3 with a double and first-inning run for Delta. "We expect to be playing Delta Com-

pany (in the final)," McGilton said. He was right. In other games Sept. 10, Bravo stayed alive by eliminating the 2117th 16-3 and Charlie eliminated AMCOM 13-3. On Sept. 9, Delta beat Bravo 12-2 and HHC 59th got past Charlie 17-4. In losers' bracket games Sept. 8, the Marines eliminated MEDDAC 26-7, 2117th stopped Headquarters & Alpha 16-7 and AMCOM put out the Marines 15-13.

Gators too much for Vols at swamp

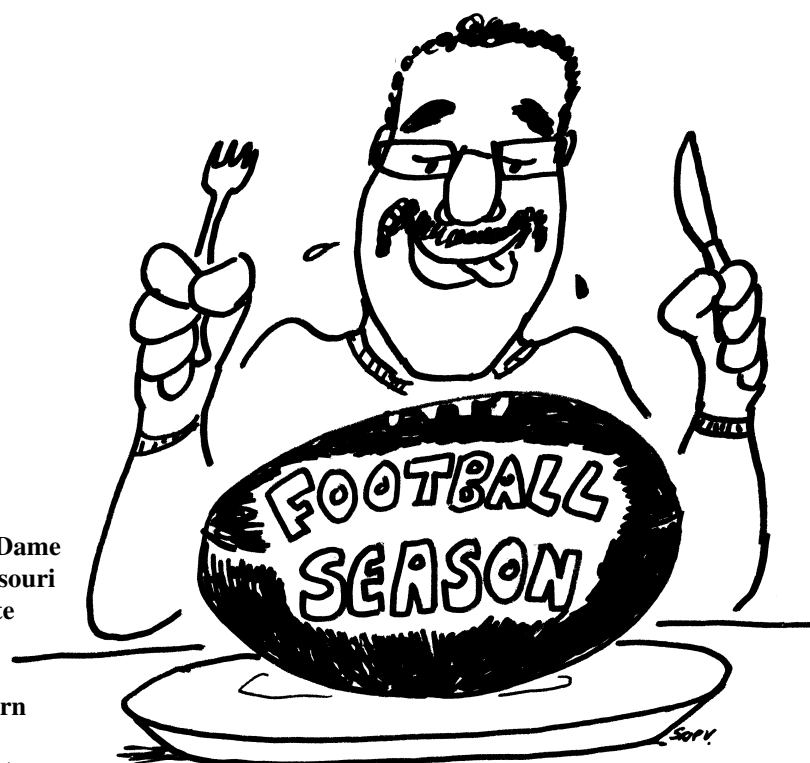
Florida gets nod over Tennessee

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

My college football predictions are 72-19 after four weeks. Here are Skip's Picks for selected games this week:

- Arizona State at Iowa — **Iowa**
- Tulane at Army — **Tulane**
- Stanford at BYU — **BYU**
- Miami at Boston College — **Miami**
- California at Illinois — **Illinois**
- Clemson at Georgia Tech — **Tech**
- Colorado at Florida State — **FSU**
- Marshall at Kansas State — **K-State**
- West Virginia at Maryland — **W.Va.**
- Michigan at Oregon — **Michigan**
- Mich. State at Notre Dame — **Notre Dame**
- Middle Tennessee at Missouri — **Missouri**
- Texas Tech at N.C. State — **N.C. State**
- Eastern Michigan at Navy — **Navy**
- North Carolina at Wisconsin — **Wis.**
- Northwestern at Duke — **Northwestern**
- UCLA at Oklahoma — **Oklahoma**
- Oklahoma State at SMU — **Okla. State**
- Texas at Rice — **Texas**
- Texas A&M at Virginia Tech — **Texas A&M**
- New Mexico at Washington State — **Wash. State**

- Tennessee at Florida — **Florida**
- Northern Illinois at Alabama — **Bama**
- Alabama A&M at Miss. Valley State — **A&M**
- North Texas at Arkansas — **Arkansas**
- Georgia at LSU — **Georgia**
- Kentucky at Indiana — **Kentucky**
- Mississippi State at Houston — **Miss. State**
- UAB at South Carolina — **South Carolina**
- Vanderbilt at Texas Christian — **TCU**
- Wyoming at Air Force — **Air Force**
- Arizona at Purdue — **Purdue**



NFL kickoff event honors servicemembers

Britney Spears, Aerosmith among performers on stage

By K.L. VANTRAN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A little rain didn't deter thousands of military people and family members from staking out prime spots for the National Football League's kickoff concert on the National Mall Sept. 4.

The event, formally promoted as "NFL Kickoff Live 2003 From the National Mall Presented by Pepsi Vanilla," saluted America's servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians. It was open to the public, but was designed to honor America's military forces, as part of Operation Tribute to Freedom, especially those who have participated in the global war on terrorism.

Army Reserve SSgt. Philip Nelson, a respiratory specialist with the 865th Combat Support Hospital from Utica, N.Y., was one of the first to camp out next to the stage.

Nelson was dressed in his desert battle dress uniform, his boots caked with fresh mud. The week's rain took its toll on the mall's infield, leaving ankle-deep mud and puddles. But the noncommissioned officer had become used to navigating the slippery field. He arrived Sept. 1 to help as a volunteer with NFL Kickoff 2003, and decided to stay for the concert.

As a light rain began to fall, the staff sergeant who served in an armed forces hospital in Camp Doha, Kuwait, used a towel to wipe his brow.

"We just got back," he said. "We were there Dec. 2 (2002) until July 4 (2003). I wish our whole unit could be here. It's great that they're honoring the servicemembers."

As a civilian, Nelson works for Oneida (N.Y.) Health Care. He said his employer, neighbors and community were very supportive while he was away.

He said he had support when he deployed during 1991's Operation Desert Storm, but it was "not like this." "I received a package almost every day, which put me in a little trouble with the other soldiers — but it was a good trouble," he noted.

"When I came home, there was a 'Welcome Home' sign on my house. The support has just been great," he added.

Army Reserve PFC Eric Ambler, a military policeman with the 447th Military Police Company, Akron/Zainesville, Ohio, said his employer also has been very supportive. Just back from working in a prison in Iraq, Ambler came to the concert with a group of servicemembers who are being treated at Walter Reed Army Medical Center here. The private first class said he was taken to a hospital in Germany, and then to Walter Reed after suffering from seizures. His fellow MPs, including his wife, Shannon, a specialist assigned to the company, are still in Iraq.

The young man's eyes teared as he said, "I wish I could trade places with her."

As for the concert, Ambler said it was a very nice event. "I just hope all the

troops who come home will be treated just as well," he added.

As festivities got under way, Interior Secretary Gale Norton welcomed the crowd and encouraged guests to volunteer with the Take Pride in America Program.

While local band Good Charlotte from Waldorf, Md., appeared to have quite a following, it was headliners Mary J. Blige, Britney Spears and Aerosmith who drew the most applause.

Eleven-year-old Molly Brown, who attended the concert with her stepfather, Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Terry Loman, Company B, Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion, Fort Meade, Md., said she was there to see Britney, and wouldn't leave even if it rained harder. But as the concert kickoff approached, the skies cleared and

the pre-teen didn't have to make good on her boast.

Loman, whose unit provides intelligence support to troops on the front lines, called the concert an "outstanding" event. "It's great they're providing support and honoring the military, especially the guys up front."

The concert concluded with Aretha Franklin performing the national anthem just before the kickoff of the first NFL game of the season. Jumbo-sized monitors set up along the mall carried the national telecast of the season opener between the Washington Redskins and New York Jets at nearby FedEx Field. The Redskins won, 16-13, in the final seconds with a 33-yard field goal from former Jet John Hall.

Marksmanship team seeks pistol shooters

Competitions scheduled for summer of 2004

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit is looking for a few good shooters.

The competitive unit is putting out its annual call for soldiers interested in competing in pistol competitions in the summer of 2004.

"Soldiers who wish to represent the U.S. Army in pistol competition, marksmanship instruction and recruiting assistance are welcome to apply. This is a highly visible, fast-paced mission," SFC Charles Gibbs, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Service Pistol Team, said.

The Army Pistol Team is looking for highly motivated, disciplined and competitive by nature active duty soldiers, Gibbs said, adding that no previous competitive shooting experience is required.

Staff sergeant and below with fewer than 15 years service, who obtain approval from their commanders, can travel to Fort Benning in April to train. The soldiers are trained in advanced marksmanship skills.

Following training, pistol team officials will select shooters to participate in the Interservice Championships in June and the National Matches in July.

After the three-month tour, soldiers return to their units with training unit trainers can harvest to improve their soldiers marksmanship skills, Gibbs said.

Formed in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to raise marksmanship standards throughout the Army, the Army Marksmanship Unit is assigned to the Accessions Support Brigade, U.S. Army Accessions Command at Fort Monroe, Va. The unit trains its soldiers to win competitions and enhances combat readiness through train-the-trainer clinics, research and development. The world-class soldier-athletes also promote the Army and assist recruiters in attracting young Americans to enlist.

Interested soldiers can contact Gibbs at (706) 545-7022 or 545-3893 or e-mail: Charles.Gibbs@usarec.army.mil.

For more information, visit the unit's web site at www.usamu.com.

Editor's note: Information taken from a U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office release.

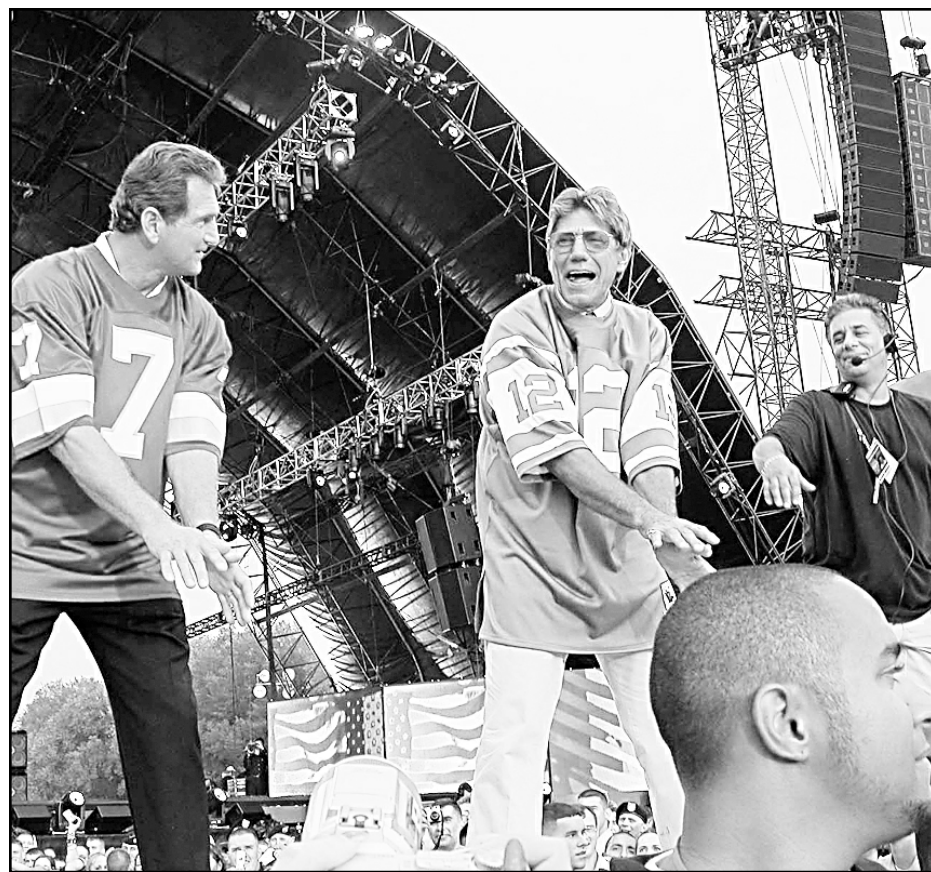


Photo by SFC Doug Sample

WARMUP— Former NFL quarterbacks Joe Theismann of the Washington Redskins and Joe Namath of the New York Jets clown around on stage before the opening of the NFL Kickoff 2003 celebration Sept. 4 on the National Mall.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS
REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

| ANNOUNCEMENTS | POSITION TITLE | CLOSING | ORGANIZATION | PAY PLAN | GRADE | POT | PAY RANGE | | WHO CAN APPLY? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|-------|------------------|---|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | DATE | LOCATION | & SERIES | LEVEL | GRD | (FROM - TO) | A | B | C | D | E | F | H | I | R | T | V | U | | | | | | | | |
| AS OF SEP 12 03 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03202338R | Police Officer (MVDH) | 17-Sep-03 | GARRISON | GS-0083 | 7 | 7 | 31,959 - 41,547 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK0333590A | Program Analyst | 17-Sep-03 | PEO SIM | GG-0343 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03384724 | Security Assistant | 17-Sep-03 | GARRISON | GG-0086 | 6 | 6 | 28,759 - 37,386 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03347641 | Aviation Aco Systems Coordinator | 17-Sep-03 | DCSS | GS-0301 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,564 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK0343320 | General Engineer | 18-Sep-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0801 | 3 | 3 | 56,690 - 87,640 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03348620 | Program Assistant | 19-Sep-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0344 | 6 | 6 | 28,759 - 37,386 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03362805 | Contract Specialist | 19-Sep-03 | SMDC | GS-1102 | 11 | 12 | 47,299 - 61,494 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03362839 | Intelligence Specialist (IT) | 19-Sep-03 | SMDC | GG-0132 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03362846 | General Engineer | 19-Sep-03 | SMDC | GG-0801 | 13 | 13 | 47,299 - 73,697 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK0330986 | TQM/Automation Spec | 19-Sep-03 | SGS | GS-0301 | 9 | 9 | 39,092 - 50,820 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03382694 | Budget Analyst | 19-Sep-03 | OMEMS | GS-0560 | 11 | 11 | 47,299 - 61,494 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03387001 | Electronics Engineer | 19-Sep-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0855 | 3 | 3 | 56,690 - 87,640 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03387243 | Engineering Technician | 19-Sep-03 | AMRDEC | DE-0802 | 3 | 3 | 43,050 - 73,697 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK0377036 | Log Mgmt Spec | 20-Sep-03 | IMMC | GS-0346 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03287246 | Lead International Mgmt Specialist | 22-Sep-03 | SMDC | GS-0301 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,564 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03343313 | Lead General Engineer | 22-Sep-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0801 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03387234 | Budget Analyst | 22-Sep-02 | OMEMS | GS-0560 | 9 | 9 | 39,092 - 50,820 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK0339705 | Human Resources Spec | 23-Sep-03 | CPAC | GS-0201 | 9 | 11 | 39,092 - 61,494 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03361497 | Electrical Engineer | 23-Sep-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0850 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 72,112 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03385239 | Budget Analyst | 24-Sep-03 | SMDC | GS-0560 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03382599 | Management Analyst | 25-Sep-03 | SMDC | GS-0343 | 11 | 11 | 47,299 - 61,494 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03362776 | Contract Specialist | 25-Sep-03 | SMDC | GS-1102 | 9 | 9 | 39,092 - 50,820 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03363558 | Electronics Engineer | 25-Sep-03 | RTTC | GS-0855 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03383950 | Supvy Log Mgmt Spec | 25-Sep-03 | IMMC | NH-0346 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03353986 | Human Resources Spec | 26-Sep-03 | CPAC | GS-0201 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03340884 | Program Analyst | 26-Sep-03 | PEO TAC | GS-0343 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03339338 | Management Analyst | 26-Sep-03 | THAAD | GS0343 | 11 | 11 | 47,299 - 61,494 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03285221 | Secretary (OA) | 26-Sep-03 | PEO TAC | GS-0318 | 7 | 7 | 31,958 - 41,547 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03365228 | Architect, Chem Engr, Civil Engr, Elec Engr, Envi Engr, Mech Engr, Land Arch. | 26-Sep-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0808-0893-0810-0850-0819-0807 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03396380 | Safety and Occupational Health Spec | 27-Sep-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0018 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03357408 | Supvy General Engineer | 29-Sep-03 | SMDC | NH-0801 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03565176 | Supvy Oper Research Analyst | 29-Sep-03 | CAD | NH-1515 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0685 | Audiologist/Speech Pathologist | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0685 | 11-13 | 13 | 44,668 - 88,770 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0683 | Dental Lab Technician | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0683 | 5-7 | 7 | 25,467 - 42,083 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0603 | Physician's Assistant | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0603 | 11-13 | 13 | 46,689 - 88,770 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0682 | Dental Hygienist | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0682 | 5-7 | 7 | 25,467 - 45,493 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0681 | Dental Assistant | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0681 | 5-7 | 7 | 25,467 - 42,083 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0680 | Dental Officer | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0680 | 12 | 12 | 55,958 - 74,648 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0662 | Optometrist | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0662 | 11-13 | 13 | 46,689 - 88,770 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0668 | Podiatrist | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0668 | 11-13 | 13 | 46,689 - 88,770 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-DH-02-0610 | Registered Nurse | 30-Sep-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0610 | 9-12 | 12 | 39,586 - 74,648 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03343315 | Program Manager | 2-Oct-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0340 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,564 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03344390 | Lead General Engineer | 2-Oct-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0801 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03346194 | Lead General Engineer | 2-Oct-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0801 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03360407 | Electronics Engineer | 2-Oct-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0855 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03345902 | Lead General Engineer | 3-Oct-03 | AMRDEC | DB-0801 | 4 | 4 | 79,663 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03382568 | Structural Engineer | 10-Oct-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0801 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03338655 | Supvy General Engineer | 10-Oct-03 | THAAD | GS-0801 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,564 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03259647 | General Engineer | 10-Oct-03 | PEO TAC | GS-0801 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,663 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03335963 | Inte Prog Mgmt Spec | 10-Oct-03 | PEO TAC | GS-0301 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03395794 | Supvy Structural Engineer | 10-Oct-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0810 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,564 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03382124 | Supvy Civil Engr, Supvy Geologist | 11-Oct-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0810 1350 | 14 | 14 | 79,663 - 103,564 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03270830OC | Contract Specialist | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-1102 | 13 | 13 | 66,543 - 87,640 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03258412OC | Land Arch, Aech, Civil Engr, Envi Engr, Mech Engr, Elec Engr, Chem Engr | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0807-0808-0810-0819-0830-0850-0893 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03259531OC | Project Mgmt Spec | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0301 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03202370OC | Electrical Engineer | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0850 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03202398OC | Engineering Technician | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0802 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03257513OC | Civil Engr, Arch, Mech Engr, Elec Engr, Envi Engr | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0810 0808 0830 0850 0819 | 13 | 13 | 67,413 - 87,640 | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03254278OC | Civil Engr, Arch, Mech Engr, Elec Engr, Envi Engr | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0810 0808 0830 0850 0819 | 12 | 12 | 53,225 - 72,112 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03197863OC | Safety and Occupational Health Spec | 31-Dec-03 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0018 | 11 | 11 | 47,266 - 61,494 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-03-2653 | Medical Technologist (VOS) | 31-Dec-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0644 | 7-9-10 | 11-12 | 31,546 - 72,748 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-03-2673 | Social Worker | 31-Dec-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0185 | 9-11 | 12 | 38,588 - 72,747 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| MD-03-2682 | Counseling Psychologist | 31-Dec-03 | MEDCOM | GS-0180 | 9-11 | 12 | 38,588 - 72,747 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| SCBK03127239 | Architect | 2-Jan-04 | CoE Huntsville | GS-0808 | 11 | 12 | 47,240 - 70,841 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.OPS.MIL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| X-SP-03-5506-FL | Program Aco Mgmt Officer | 17-Sep-03 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0301 | 15 | 15 | 93,705 - 121,817 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| X-LW-03-5531-RD | Management Specialist | 19-Sep-03 | Office Sec of Army | DE-0346 | 3 | 3 | 43,050 - 73,697 | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| X-AO-03-5535-PO | Electrical Engineer | 19-Sep-03 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0850 | 12 | 12 | 56,690 - 73,697 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |

Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Recreation volunteers

Volunteers are wanted to assist with and instruct Outdoor Recreation programs like hunting, fishing, shooting, canoeing, archery, boating, camping, hiking and special projects. Those eligible persons interested in volunteering for the 2003-04 year should apply at Outdoor Recreation, building 5132, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Saturday. For more information, call Mike 876-0901 or 876-4868.

Hunter orientations

Redstone Arsenal Hunting Orientations, for everyone planning to hunt on post, will be held at 4:30 p.m. Sept.18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Nov. 6 and Nov. 20 at the Recreation Center, building 3711. Participants only have to attend one session. For information call Missy 876-4868 or Mike 876-0901.

Bass tournament

The Army Aviation Association of America is sponsoring its semiannual bass tournament Oct. 4, launching from the Easter-Posey recreation area at 6:30 a.m. For more information call Bob Vlasics 881-4144, Tony Giannelli 313-6054 or Tom Geoffroy 313-4444.

Marine Corps 5K

The Marine Corps 5K Mountain Fun Run/Walk is 8 a.m. Saturday on post. Proceeds will support the Marine Corps Ball. Entry fee (includes T-shirt) is \$15 for ages 18 and up, \$8 for ages 10-17 and free for children under 10. To sign up, call Gayle Morrell 876-1691.

Butler golf tournament

The Butler High Baseball Booster Club will hold a golf tournament Oct. 4 at 11:30 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course. Cost is \$60 per player, \$240 per team. A meal will be provided and prizes awarded. For information call Butler High 428-7950 and leave a message for the baseball booster club president.



Conferences & Meetings

Protestant women

Protestant Women of the Chapel meets Thursdays from 9:30 to noon at Bicentennial Chapel. Four studies are offered. "Come for fellowship, worship, prayer and Bible study," a prepared release said. Child care is available. Other classes are held Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and in the evening. For more information, call Tonie Welch 489-5646 or Jennifer Devlin 716-0107.

Aeronautics group

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics will have its October dinner meeting Oct. 14 at the Holiday Inn at Research Park (by Madison Square Mall). Social begins at 6:15 p.m., with dinner at 7. Scheduled speaker is David Franz, vice president of the chemical and biological defense division for Southern Research Institute and a former UN chief weapons inspector for biological weapons in Iraq. Cost is \$25 per person. For reservations call Joe Sims 544-4650 by noon Oct. 10.

Alabama State alums

The Rocket City Alumni Chapter of the National Alumni Association/Alabama State University will hold its monthly meeting Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at the Piccadilly Cafeteria at Madison Square Mall. Breakfast is \$4.50. All are encouraged to attend.

Airborne association

The Vulcan Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Division Association meets on the third Saturday of each month. The next meeting is this Saturday. Membership in the association is open to anyone who is airborne qualified, as well as anyone who has served in a unit assigned or attached to the 82nd Airborne Division. Anyone interested in the association or attending the meetings can call Barry Simpson 533-3000 or Dennis Camp 883-7488.

Overeaters anonymous

Overeaters anonymous
Do you have a problem with food? Overeaters Anonymous of Madison is presenting a series of newcomers meetings beginning Oct. 7 on Tuesday night from 6-7:30. There are no dues or fees. For more information, call 890-0948.

Air defenders

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association is having a general membership meeting/luncheon Sept. 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Col. Richard De Fatta, project manager for Short Range Air Defense, is the scheduled speaker. The cost is \$11 for members in good standing and \$14 for non-members. Applications for membership will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact the association secretary at michael.i.howell@ngc.com.

Officers association

The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association, will hold its monthly luncheon meeting Sept. 24 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilian Club. Bill Hawkins of G. L. Smith and Associates is to discuss financial planning. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired CWO 4 Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Miscellaneous

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays 9-5 and Thursdays and Fridays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. The Thrift Shop seeks more volunteers for Thursdays and Fridays. The shop's first craft fair, to become an annual event, is Oct. 4. Signup sheets will be available at the shop. The shop will start taking winter items/clothing Oct. 1. For more information, call 881-6992.

Children's center

Child and Youth Services is accepting applications for its Child Development Center (ages 6 weeks to 5 years), School Age Services (kindergarten through fifth-grade), middle school and teen (grades 6-12), and Family Child Care (4 weeks to 12 years). Items needed for registration include completion of the registration packet, current shot record and current physical. You may pick up the registration packets at the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. You may also visit the web site at www.redstonemwr.com and download the CYS forms. Registration cost is \$15 per child or \$35 per family. These programs are open to children of anyone who works on, lives on or can legally access Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call Chris Carter 876-3704 or Pam Berry 955-6309.

Army family team building

You're invited to make the connection with Army Family Team Building, Level I. Learn about military customs and courtesies, the chain of command/chain of concern, family and military expectations, impact of the mission on family life, benefits/entitlements/compensation, and how to support your child's education. The classes are free and open to anyone who supports an Army servicemember (spouse, parent, grandparent, significant other, guardian or friend). Come meet others new to Army life — you'll find out you're not alone and that a basic understanding of Army culture and lifestyle can open so many doors. The learning environment is casual and child care will be provided free of charge. Level I classes will be held Sept. 23-25 from 6-9 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Call 876-5397 by Sept. 12 to enroll.

Bingo pack night

Challenger Bingo will have Special Pack Night, Friday from 5:45-10 p.m. Come on out for extra games; buy one game pack and get one free, as well as free snacks. Call 837-0750/ 0751 for details.

Community luau

The Redstone Arsenal MWR Community Hawaiian Luau has been rescheduled for Sept. 26 from 4-8 p.m. at the Firehouse, building 115 on Hankins Road. Come on out for a Polynesian night of fun in your favorite Hawaiian outfit, grass skirt, or wild shirt. There will be a Hawaiian buffet, dancers, limbo and contests. Tickets are \$8 for adults (\$6 for NCO Club members) and \$3 for children 7-12; with free admission for children 6 and under. For more information, call Brandie DeRemer 313-1203.

Car wash

Headquarters & Alpha Company is sponsoring a car wash Friday from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the PX Service Station, building 3240.

Big Spring Jam

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is selling advance weekend tickets for the Big Spring Jam, Sept. 26-28. The advanced ticket price is \$30. (The regular price is \$35.) Make checks payable to Big Spring Jam. The last day for advance ticket sales is Sept. 24. The CWFC ticket representatives are: building 5302, Jan Pickard 876-2569; building 5303, Charles Urban 955-7662; building 5304, Rosie Douglas 313-0674; building 5307, Randy Bigler 313-6763; building 5308, Pat Cross 955-9640 and Jerrel McCullum 842-8850; building 4488, Donna Johnson 876-9675; building 8700, Lori Martin 842-2155; building 3325, Karen Scott 842-1129; building 5400, Bob Olson 876-4993; SMDC, 106 Wynn Drive, Jack Calvert 955-3612; and JPL, 5000 Bradford Drive, Tom Hart 313-9802.

Waiting spouse night

Waiting Spouses will have a ladies night out Saturday. Waiting Spouses is a group of women who are geographically separated from their husbands. They get together several times each month to participate in various social and community

activities. If your spouse is active duty, including recent activation, and away on an unaccompanied tour, attending training, etc., they'd love to have you join them. Child care is provided. For more information, call Kristi Foster or Army Community Service 876-5397. Members also plan to attend the Hawaiian Luau, Sept. 26 at 4-8 p.m. at the Firehouse, building 115 on Hankins Road. To RSVP, call Foster by Sept. 24.

Scrapbook classes

Scrapbook classes are being offered every Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. at the Arts and Crafts Center. "We are also adding open scrapbooking crops on Friday afternoons from 1-4," a prepared release said. "These open crops will include a small class on a technique or idea; and an instructor will be available to answer any questions you have about your layouts or techniques." You can pre-register for classes or crops at the Arts and Crafts Center, building 3615, or call 876-7952 for information.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for September include: Area 1, Challenger Centre — SSgt. and Mrs. Pirapan Chanpuang, 504-A Walnut Circle; Area 2, Challenger Heights — SFC and Mrs. Daryl Stinnett, 1021 Buffington Road; Area 3, Saturn Pointe — Maj. and Mrs. Theodore Stevenson, 47 Ripley Drive; Area 4A — New Endeavor Village — SSgt. and Mrs. Delbert Francis, 603 Wesson Circle; Area 4B, Endeavor Village — SSgt. and Mrs. Gregory Stokes, 672-B Dyer Circle; Area 5, Freedom Landing — Capt. and Mrs. Bryan Phillips, 426 Hughes Drive; Area 6, Voyager Village — SSgt. and Mrs. Andrew Doucette, 362 Crowell Circle; Area 10A, Apollo Landing — Sgt. and Mrs. Derek Daugherty, 477-B Cooke Drive; and Area 10B, Pathfinder Pointe — Maj. and Mrs. Brian Tachias, 486 Cooke Drive. The unit winner is Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, in building 3410. This was the final Yard of the Month competition for this year. "Thanks to everyone for their hard work and dedication," Giannina Brown, program assistant in the Housing Management Office, said.

Art show

The fifth annual Monte Sano Art Show, featuring more than 80 artists and crafts people, is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Monte Sano Club atop Monte Sano Mountain.

Plastic modelers

Huntsville Plastic Modelers' Society will have its 27th annual model contest Oct. 4 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Jaycees Community Building on Airport Road. Admission to view the models is free. For information call David Lanteigne 880-2288.

Military pay update

Electronic W2s have arrived for Redstone soldiers. On Sept. 15, Defense Finance and Accounting Service implemented a software package in myPay and the corresponding payroll systems that will eliminate hard copy W2s being printed and mailed for military members that have a myPay PIN. Military members with a myPay PIN will only receive an eW2. A button will be available on myPay that

will allow those members to receive a hard copy W2, but the "default" will be an electronic W2. A message will be included on future LES's. "This could be a concern for soldiers that have not used their myPay account since establishing it and do not use it in the future," Sonya Morris, director of Defense Military Pay Office at Redstone, said in a prepared release. "Unit commanders must get the word out to their soldiers and to encourage them to set up and use myPay."

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club each year presents Merit Awards to qualified applicants based on their scholastic achievements, citizenship and sincere desire to pursue higher education. These awards are designed to help offset the cost of tuition, books and related fees. All applicants must meet the following criteria: be a member, spouse of a member, or the dependent of an OCWC member in good standing as of Oct. 1, 2003 and live within a 50-mile radius of Huntsville. Candidates may compete in one of four categories: high school senior, undergraduate, graduate and member/spouse. Previous award winners may compete in succeeding years, but may win only once in each category. Additionally, students receiving full scholarships are not eligible to apply for a Merit Award. Applications will be available at all OCWC board meetings and luncheons beginning in October. The deadline for Merit Award consideration is Feb. 11, 2004. For more information call Michelle Archer, the Merit Award chairperson, 534-5783.

Emotional intelligence course

The South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center is working with her sister CPOCs to present "Effective Leadership Using Emotional Intelligence" via distance learning in two different time zones on two different days. This course will be presented live for members of the Redstone community in building 5304, room 4387. The first session will be offered Oct. 8 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the second session on Oct. 9 will be from 8-4. There are 25 slots for each day. The cost is \$50 per participant. Marsha Samples of Training and Learning Center, the course manager, may be reached at 842-6543 for registration and payment information.

Hispanic heritage month

Team Redstone is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept 15 through Oct 15. "Honoring Our Past, Surpassing Our Present, and Leading Our Future" is the theme for this year's observance. A program will be held noon-2 p.m. Oct. 9 at Bob Jones Auditorium. Entries to an essay contest pertaining to this year's theme are due by Sept. 22 to SFC Adriano Vasquez, equal opportunity adviser for Aviation and Missile Command, at 876-8015, or SFC Richard Weber, equal opportunity adviser for Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, at 876-9224. Entries must be submitted in 12-point font, double-spaced, and be two pages or less.

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Announcements

Plaques will be awarded for the top three essays. Entries for a static display contest must be in place by Sept. 22. Notify either Vasquez or Weber of the display location and point of contact. Trophies will be awarded for the top three displays. All awards will be presented at the Hispanic Heritage Month ceremony. The Hispanic Heritage program is presented as an educational opportunity, sharing cultural diversity with the entire Redstone community. The scheduled speaker is Irma Tudor, president and CEO of Analytical Services Inc.

Community service volunteers

Would like to increase your job skills, meet new people, while making a difference in your community? Army Community Service invites you to the next new volunteer orientation Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to noon at building 3338 on Redeye Road. Many volunteer opportunities are available. Child care will be provided at no cost when you RSVP by Sept. 29. For more information, call Inger Frye 876-5397. ACS will conduct quarterly volunteer training Oct. 14 from 11-noon at building 3338. All ACS volunteers are encouraged to attend. Child care will be provided. RSVP by Sept. 29 at 876-5397.

Income tax course

The Redstone Arsenal Extension of Calhoun Community College has scheduled a course on how to prepare individual income tax returns. Course dates are Oct. 16 through Dec. 17, Monday and Wednesday, from 7:20-10 p.m. Registration begins today. Call 876-7431 for more information.

Workers' compensation

The Injury Compensation Office of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is here to assist you if you have suffered an on the job injury or illness. Its mission is to assist injured workers in applying for Workers' Compensation benefits following an on-the-job injury or illness and in returning to duty as soon as possible. Please report the injury or illness as soon as possible by completing a CA-1 Form, "Federal Employee's Notice of Traumatic Injury and Claim for Continuation of Pay/Compensation" or a CA-2 Form, "Notice of Occupational Disease and Claim for Compensation." For quicker claim processing, visit the CPAC home page or the web site at <https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/wcw> and use the Electronic Data Interchange system to submit these forms. The EDI system allows you and/or your supervisor to complete the CA-1 or CA-2 and submit it electronically to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. This electronic process also expedites all benefits to the injured worker. The injury compensation specialists are Debra Hammond and Kim Stoufer who are in the Sparkman Center, building 5308, room 8140 and can be reached at 842-9038.

Officer classes

Command and General Staff College classes will start in mid-October. Classes will be held Monday nights from mid-October through April. The course is open to promotable captains, majors and lieutenant colonels. Even those who have enrolled in the correspondence course may be eligible to switch to classroom instruction. Both Phase I and Phase III courses will be taught in the Huntsville area. This year they are offering both a weekend and Monday night Phase I course. Interested officers should call Lt. Col. Komp 876-8825 or Lt. Col. Smith 774-1048.

NCO club

The NCO Club will hold an Open Game Night, Friday starting at 5 p.m. at the club (upstairs of the Firehouse Pub), building 114 on Hankins Road. Prizes will be awarded; and finger foods, music and cash bar will accompany games of Spades, Dominoes, Bid Whist and Pinochle. Participation is free. An NCO Club membership representative will be present to sign up prospective new members. For more information, call 830-9175.

Redstone Rocket Classifieds